



STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

LA SALLE VETERANS' HOME
1015 O'CONOR AVENUE, LA SALLE, IL 61301
TELEPHONE: 815-223-0303 * FAX: 815-223-5815

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

BRANDI MELTON
ADMINISTRATOR

TERRY PRINCE
ACTING DIRECTOR

December 23, 2021

Subj: UPDATED VISITATION POLICY

Recent updates to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines now allow for open visitation inside the facility, which may occur in the resident rooms. In-room visitation will be limited to two persons at a time, to adhere to core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention. While not required, we continue to ***strongly encourage*** visitation to be pre-scheduled, as this will allow us to provide a private, designated visiting space for your convenience, and to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. If you prefer to have a private designated space available for visiting with your loved ones, we will have individual rooms available on a first come, first serve basis. If you need assistance with booking a private visitation room, please contact our staff at (815) 223-0303.

Here are the current IDVA Visitation Guidelines:

*Visitors must always wear masks.

- **All visitors are required to be tested for COVID-19, within 48 hours prior to their visit or immediately upon their visit. Visitors are encouraged to be tested on their own before coming to the Veterans' Home, but rapid testing will be available during most visiting hours.** Allow at least 15 minutes for rapid tests to process results, if conducted at the facility. Exceptions to the testing requirement will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- All visitors are encouraged to be vaccinated for COVID-19.
- All visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- All visitors will be screened upon entrance. Visitors who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will not be granted entrance.
- After screening, all visitors should report directly to the resident room / designated visiting location and remain in that location for the duration of the visit.
- No more than two visitors per resident are allowed for an in-room visit, due to social distancing requirements.

- If a resident or a visitor requests additional individuals to be present, facility staff will offer alternative visiting space, if available, to accommodate their request.
- All visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff of the facility.
- Hand hygiene is required prior to and after each visit.
- Consumption of food items should not occur during any in-room visit.
- Visitors may use the restroom in the main hallway only.

Visitation is contingent on compliance with these guidelines. Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will not be permitted and will be asked to leave.

Please call (815) 223-0303 with any questions. As always, our top priority is the health and safety of our veteran heroes and the devoted staff who care for them.

Finally, while it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak, visits, while still allowed, will be highly discouraged. We wish to thank you in advance for following our visitation guidelines in an effort to keep you and your loved one safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandi Melton". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Brandi Melton
Administrator